LOADSTAR LETTER

Number 32. Companion the LOADSTAR disk #142

Just when You Thought You Were "Compleatly Safe," LOADSTAR Launches

Two New Software Titles

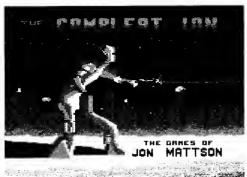
LOADSTAR proudly introduces two new titles in our Compleat series: The Compleat Crossword and a new game disk, The Compleat Jon. The Compleat Crossword is a major collection of 220 crossword puzzles found in Puzzle Page on LOADSTAR.



From a handy scrolling menu you can select any of the puzzles and then solve them on screen with Barbara Schulak's *Cruciverbalist* program. When done with the puzzle you have the option of "marking" the puzzle as one that's solved.

Compleat Crossword is a testament of digital cooperation, compiled by Bill Calvert, Presenter by Fender Tucker, and Puzzle Program by Barbara Schulak. The myriad of puzzles were crafted by Barbara Schulak, Fender Tucker, Craig Buchman, Linda Vano, Peter Rokitski and Knees Calhoon Music by Dave Marquis. You can even select which of the nine songs you'd like to hear while solving the puzzles.

The Compleat Jon, The Games of Jon Mattson, is a collection of 11 superb games previously published on LOADSTAR. During



L O A D S T A R's "middle years" (1987-1990) one programmer stood out from the crowd because of the sophistication of his programs -- Jon Mattson. Practically every month he would send LOADSTAR his latest creation, which usually used the most modern techniques of game programming.

The whole gamut of gaming is covered

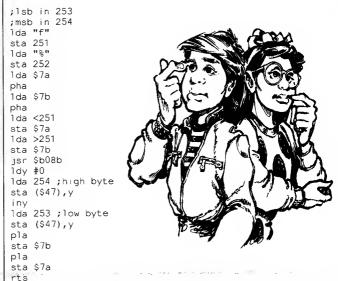
here: artificial intelligence, role-playing, mazes, fantasy, science fiction, education and even non-violence (which was a radical concept in its time).

The thing l like best about the games is that each takes place in a consistent, realized world of its own. Read the docs, which are all by Jon himself, to get the background story behind each game.

These are not silly little games made with character graphics; they are games with backgrounds and stories, and Jon tells these stories very well, indeed. By the time you finish the docs, you are *in* the created world, and once you run the program you *are* the hero, with lives depending on you and your cleverness and dexterity.

Things That Make You Go "Hmmm...'

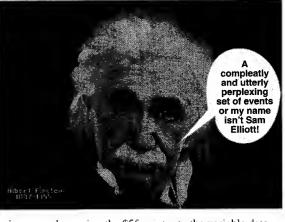
by Jeff Jones. While developing *The Compleat Crossword*, Fender stumbled upon a bug in my [Jeff] code that causes a crash whenever following 6502 code creates an integer variable, F%, with a value of 40.



This code was handed down to me from C-64 programming legend, Rick Nash. I'll admit that I've mutated the code a bit. I use this code all the time to pass data back to BASIC from my machine language routines. I used this code in *Menu Toolbox*, which Fender used in *Compleat Crossword*. When Fender selected the 40th item on the crossword menu, the program crashed with a syntax error. I studied the code and found nothing that should be agitated by a value of 40. I plugged in a 40 and assembled the code by itself. *Crash!* What's more weird,

Toolbox 105 uses similar code with different memory locations to protect its variables. lt doesn't crash on 40. I can't figure out why. I was able to fix the code by making the variable zero, and t h e n

manually



plugging in the integer value, using the \$5f pointer to the variable data.

I found the pointer by locating a variable in memory, and then using Super Snapshot V5.5.2's machine language monitor to search for any zero page locations pointing to the variable. Though this bug is squashed, I can't help but wonder what could have caused such a thing to happen. Hmmm. Anyone have any ideas?

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LOADSTAR is a monthly "magazine on disk" for the Commodore 64/128. Subscribers receive two 1541 disks (or one 1681 disk) in their mailbox every month packed with news, ancies and programs. These non-Po. high-quality programs are written by the best home based programmers in the field and edited by the crack LOADSTAR team of Fender Tucker and Jeff Jones. Subscription prices are at an all-time low of \$59.95 for a 12-month subscription, or \$1.95 for a fines-month subscription. You may also elect to subscribe "by the month," where we charge your credit card \$7.35 for each issue after it's shipped. We also offer the long line of standalone products below.

NEW Games Disk! The Compleat Jon: 11 Games! The

whole gamut of gaming is covered here: artificial intelligence, role-playing, mazes, fantasy, science fiction, education and even non-violence (which was a radical concept in its time). These eleven games are among the best ever published on LOADSTAR. Listed on the menu in chronological order, so you can see how Jon's style changed as the years rolled by 1581 disk 0021D3 \$20.1541 disk #0038D5 \$20



NEW Puzzle disk!

The Compleat Crossword: Every

crossword puzzle published in Puzzle Page in one huge collection! 220 puzzles! It uses Barbara Schulak's CRUCIVERBALIST program to present the puzzles and allows you to "mark" a puzzle when it's solved so that you know which you've solved and which you haven't yet. Each 1541 disk contains 110 puzzles. 1581 Disk #0020D3 \$20. Disk 1 (1541) #0036D5 \$10.Disk 2 (1541) #0037D5 \$10

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LOADSTAR presents the biggest Geos collection of clip art and fonts ever offered at one time. All of the Geos art that's ever appeared on LOADSTAR, as well as some great files from Geos fanatic Dick Estel, are available on twenty 5.25 inch disks or eight 3.5 inch disks. Most of this has never been seen before! Use these graphics in your GeoPaint, GeoWrite and GeoPublish documents or convert to FGM with FGM utilities. Spiff up your GeoFAX documents with the appropriate graphic -- every time! Prices are \$20 for any two 3.5 inch disks, or any five 5.25 inch disks. You can purchase the whole collection for \$75 for either version. Call LOADSTAR toll-free at 1-800-594-3370 or 1-318-221-8718 to order by credit card. Or send check or money order and specify (by LG number) which disks you want.

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Disk 01 - RAILS: Railroad art from Europe and the USA #0012D5

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Photo Album files with the great clip artwork The 3.5" disks are roughly equivalent to two and a featured on past LOADSTARS - Includes half 5.25" disks. GeoCurmudgeon, Anamalia I and II, Australian Animals, Valentine art and many more #0017D5, #0018D5, #0019D5

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Disk 10 - OLD WEST: Scanned Artwork from Dick Estel's FRD Software - mostly woodcut style art of the old west, gold rush days and pioneer scenes. #0021D5

Disk 11: J.

Disk 12 - HOLIDAY: Artwork for New Years, Valentine's, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas

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Disk 17 - OFFICE AND SCHOOL: Clips to be used at work and around the house #0028D5

sk 18 -MUSIC & MORE SCHOOL CLIPS #0029D5

Disk 19 - SEASONAL AND HOLIDAYS: A clip for any occasion #0030D5

clip for any occasion #0031 D5

Disk 1: Equals disks 1, 2, 4B #0009D3 Disk 2: Equals disks 3, 6, 7A #0010D3

Disk 2: Equals disks 5, 8, 7B #0010D3 Disk 3: Equals disks 5, 8, 7B #0011D3 Disk 4: Equals 9, 10, 11A #0012D3 Disk 5: Equals 12, 13, 11B #0013D3 Disk 6: Equivalent of Disks 14, 15and some bonus files not on 5.25" disks #0014D3 Disk 7: Sports, Office and school, Music #015D3

Disk 8: Music, Holiday and Seasonal #016D3

For your convenience, GeoViewer is included on each volume. GEOS 2.0 is suaaested.

Diskivilla Card Games! The Compleat Maurice: A compilation of 26 solitaire card games written by Maurice Jones, the acknowledged master of card game simulations for the C-64/128. There's even a brand new, never before published game called Boomerang. **Two 5.25** inch disks #0007D5 or one 3.5 inch disk #0007D3. \$20.00 postsge paid!

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Xnet, The Newest Commodore BBS Network

If you are currently running an Image BBS and want to join a network then look no further! JOIN XNET!! Just leave feedback (not Email) on the LOADSTAR BBS at 1-318-425-4382, saying that you wish to join! We would love to have you in our network!! No harsh rules! Just a bunch of Sysops having FUN!

Jeff's Eight Inches
On the LOADSTAR LETTER #25, I slammed the STAR SJ-144 color printer. I got one letter in its defense last fall. For the way the writer used the printer (a cool color graphic covering 20% of the paper in the middle of text), it seemed to have decent output. It still doesn't stack up to modern color ink jet printers. The Star SJ-144 isn't history because Jeff doesn't like it. It's history because it doesn't stack up. And how dare they call it "laser quality." It's hard enough to keep a straight face when you call a serious ink jet printer "laser quality."

Frank Vanaman wrote me, informing me that the Casio digital camera's 320x200 resolution wasn't sufficient for stunning photos, and that it was unfair to compare it with the scan of Fender and Judy in the LOADSTAR T-shirt ad. He also informed me that the 16 million color photos can make a photo look real at first glance, but at 320x200 pixels,

you can still see the lack of detail.

I agree. Also one thing some people don't understand about "16 million color pictures" is that a 320x200 image only has 64,000 pixels, and if each were a different color, it would only be a 64,000 dot picture. THere are 16 million colors available in a 24-bit picture. I just left Kroger where I perused a Modern photography. They asked if digital photos would overtake 35mm. They did side-by-side comparisons of digital cameras, including the Casio QV-10, and all the digital cameras paled to old fashioned 35mm cameras. To ad insult to injury, they took a picture with a lowly disposable camera, then scanned it, and came up with a better picture!

But there was a line of professional digital cameras that ranged from a few thousand to \$27,000, which took beautiful sharp photos at more than 1000x1000 pixels. I was impressed. Maybe in ten years, I can get a camera like that for a few hundred. Until then, digital artists with non-corporate budgets will continue to rely on "real" film cameras. I'm looking at a good focusable Polaroid camera for use with my scanner.

While editing a program this month, I came upon an interesting way to mix Commodore uppercase graphics with Upper/lowercase text on a Commodore printer. Open two channels to the printer. Open4,4,7:open5,4,0. Print#4 for text and print#5 for graphics. Why had I

I got a piece of Email, stating that LOADSTAR pushes CMD drives, but doesn't support them fully. My answer to that is that is simple: We support CMD drives in the best way possible -- by making our programs compatible, and making them run on any device number when possible. CMD designs their drives and RAM devices to be so transparent, it's difficult to think of a way to support them specifically except for partition and subdirectory surfing. I use all sorts of programs to navigate CMD devices. These programs weren't necessarily designed to be used on a CMD device.

If the program uses or creates files, it will either allow the sending of disk commands or long filenames. That's all I need for CMD support. It's one reason why I never ordered the HD version of TWS. My old

version of The Write Stuff works fine on my RAMLink.

Again, LOADSTAR's main reason for pushing the FD-2000 is that one day there will be no 1541s in working order. That, and there will be no more new 5.25-inch disks. Can you imagine LOADSTAR falling because it's loyal readers had no way to RUN its software?

A Commie Uprising: Internet Service Provider Revolt

'Internet Access And You" By: X-> MIKE <-X @ DMB The basic unit of computing is the BIT... a state determined by an ON voltage and an OFF (or null) voltage. The basic unit of networking is to transmit one bit from computer A to computer B. 8 bits make up one byte, which is equivalent to one character/letter on your screen. The 'internet' is just a collection of many networked computers. 'Internet' connectivity is highly variable, from real-time supercomputer connections to even Coca-cola machines (yep!).

The WORLD WIDE WEB is NOT the 'Internet'. It simply uses the

Internet as a carrier. A good analogy is to say "my boat is the ocean". No, it is not! Your boat simply rides on the ocean.

USENET is NOT the 'Internet'. It also uses the Internet as a

The 'internet' is just a collection of many networked computers.
You DO NOT need 'THE WAVE' to access the 'Internet'. You
MAY need 'THE WAVE' to access the GRAPHICAL portion of the WORLD WIDE WEB. You certainly do not need 'THE WAVE' to

access the TEXTual portion of the WORLD WIDE WEB.
The WORLD WIDE WEB is just a filesystem! Any vt-100 capable term program should be sufficient for internet connectivity as vt-100 (and in reality, pure ascii) is the primary currency for information interchange in the known world. If your internet provider refuses to acknowledge this, find another provider.

Q From Caped Crusader: I don't see why we can't eventually hook up our Commodore boards with Telenet and folks could call a Commodore 8 bit board using the Internet. ----

A: Telnet... telEnet was (is?) an old and hopefully-now-obsolete and useless network that charged you up the wahzoo for... err,

wow...slow down Mike..

I have done what you propose. I 'telnetted' a DIAL-OUT and had it call a local BBS. To be more precise, Highlander BBS in Toronto (416). Also, some guy put his BBS on the net, in a matter of speaking. He has a pc running linux acting as a go-between for the commodore. The BBS is so-so and the connection is no different than the DIAL-OUT idea (in essence you use a more pro-actively connected machine to spoon feed the commodore). What I am waiting for is an actual TCP/IP stack for the Commodore itself, which would allow it what I consider 'true' internet connectivity. It's like the difference between running a basic program and claiming you program in machine language (essentially you do, since basic is written in ML:) and actually getting down and doing ML

PS: DO NOT ASK ME FOR A DIAL-OUT. THESE THINGS ARE SO POPULAR AND GET ABUSED THEY RARELY LAST

FOR MORE THAN A FEW WEEKS.

Q From Realm Master: You defined the internet as bunch of "networked computers". Well, the Commodore Image network is a bunch of networked computers so would one think that it would be okay to call our CommNet an Internet? By your definition, we are an internet....one may argue that the word "internet" might mean an international network. I guess that qualifies CommNet as an Internet if for no other reason than we have some network nodes in Canada. USA-Canada..international, right? -----

A: God, you said that with loads o sardony... but did you realize just how much truth you were spouting out? The only differences (from a nice 'big picture' view) between our networked C=s and the "internet" are basically that links between machines are usually real-time (well...tries to be) super-fast (compared to our stuff) almost always 100% automated, and the machines themselves are generally serious stuff that would set you back \$20 grand ez. But this is oh-so-general... Every time I connect to my IP server, in effect, my little 128 becomes part of the "internet".. please notice the caveat about "true connectivity" in the reply to CC.

CMD Considered Including Swiftlink In Super CPU. Comments That Utility Cartridges May Work Only In 1 Mhz

From: CMD Sales <cmd.sales@the-spa.com To: H.Pieters@net.HCC.nl

Subject: Re: supercpu.128

Yes, SwiftLink will be compatible with the CPU. CMD is striving to maintain compatibility with as many cartridge port peripherals as possible including RAMLink, SwiftLink, SID Symphony and the EX3/2+1 expander. As for utility cartridges such as Super Snapshot, their compatibility may be limited to 1 MHz modes because of their design and the fact that they take over the Kernal ROM when they are plugged in. And to your second suggestion, the answer is Yes. We did consider a built-in SwiftLink. However, it would have added too much to the units cost and would be a duplication for the many thousands of

The L	OADSTAR LETTER #32 Special
ADC Add moment to Accumulator with carry Registers attacked: NZC10 V	CLI Clear interrunt disable bif (ensiste bitenteste) into inter villente di . NZ CLO V 442 esegende die ensiste time die ensiste general
imme la e a c floper 19 2 2	imple ch
zero page adc oper 65 2 3 zero page, x adc oper,x 75 2 4	CLV Clear overflow flag
absolute adc oper 6D 3 4 absolute, x adc oper, x 7D 3 4*	Clear overflow flag Registers affected: N Z C I D V
absolute, y adc oper,y 79 3 4*	implied clv B8 1 2
(indirect), y adc (oper), y 71 2 5*	Company triangly with accumulator
AND AND AND	Occupant memory with accumulation. Figures is allocated: N Z C I D V Anthropy in the Australy from recordings open
And remove to Accomplation thingstorn affected. N Z C LD V Addresse more than the processing and a	immediate cmp #oper C9 2 2 zero page cmp oper C5 2 3
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zero page and oper 25 2 3 zero page, x and oper,x 35 2 4	absolute, x cmp oper,x DD 3 4*
absolute and oper 2D 3 4 absolute, x and oper,x 3D 3 4*	absolute, y cmp oper,y D9 3 4* (indirect, x) cmp (oper,x) C1 2 6
absolute, y and oper, y 39 3 4*	(indirect), y cmp (oper),y D1 2 5
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Shift left one bit (memory or accumulator) Shift left one bit (memory or accumulator) National model of the processor of the control of the	immediate cpx #oper E0 2 2
accumulator asl 0A 1 2	zero page cpx oper E4 2 3 absolute cpx oper EC 3 4
zero page asl oper 06 2 5 zero page, x asl oper, x 16 2 6	CPY
absolute asl oper 0E 3 6	Compare intendity with Yield stee require alterted INDC FD V Adverse, of the Adventity to a check of the
DAA	immediate cpy #oper C0 2 2
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	Manager DEC
relative bcc oper 90 2 2*	Decrement memory in address by one Registers affected: N.Z.C.1.D.V Addressing mode. Assembly form proceds bytes cycles
Branch to address if carry flag is set Hegisters affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode. Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	zero page dec oper C6 2 5
	zero page, x dec oper,x D6 2 6 absolute dec oper CE 3 6
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Branch to address if zero flag is clear Registers affected, NZCIDV Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	DEX Decrement X register by one
Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles relative beq oper F0 2 2*	Decrement X register by one Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles:
BIT -	implied dex CA 1 2
Copy bit 7 of memory to N and bit 8 to V Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode - Assembly form opcode bytes, cycles	DEY Decrement Y register by one
zero page bit oper 24 2 3	Decrement V register by one Registers affected: N Z C I D V
absolute bit oper 2C 3 4	implied dey 88 1 2
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Branch to address if negative flag is set Registers affected. N Z C I D V Addressing mode. Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	Exclusive-Or Waccumulator (opposite bits on) Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode Assembly form appears bytes cycles
relative bmi oper 30 2 2*	immediate eor #oper 49 2 2 zero page eor oper 45 2 3
	zero page, x eor oper,x 55 2 4
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relative bne oper D0 2 2*	absolute, y eor oper,y 59 3 4* (indirect, x) eor (oper,x) 41 2 6
BPL Branch to address if negative flag not set	(indirect), y eor (oper),y 51 2 5*
Branch to address if negative flag not set Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	INC Increment value in address by one
relative bpl oper 10 2 2*	Increment value in address by one Registers affected: NZCIDV
BRK Force an interrupt (break)	zero page inc oper E6 2 5
Force an interrupt (break) Ragisters affected: N Z C I D V Addressmanneds: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	zero page, x inc oper,x F6 2 6 absolute inc oper EE 3 6
implie Trk 00 1	absolute, x inc oper,x FE 3 7
Branch to address if overflow flag is clear Registers affected: N.Z.C.I.D.V Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	Increment value in X register by one Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles
relative bvc oper 50 2 2*	implied inx E8 1 2
	Increment value in Y register by one Registers affected: NZCIDV
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realive vs oper // 2 2	implied iny C8 1 2
Manually clear the carry flag Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	Jump to code at specified location Registers affected: N.Z.C.I.D.V Addressing mode: Assembly form, occode bytes cycles
implied clc 18 1 2	absolute jmp oper 4C 3 3 (indirect) imp (oper) 6C 3 5
Clear decimal mode Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode Assembly form oncode bytes cycles	JSR Jump to subroutine. Save return address
Addressing mode Assembly form oncode bytes cycles implied cld D8 1 2	Jump to subroutine. Save return address Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressine mode. Assembly form opporte bytes cycles
impired ciu Do i 2	absolute jsr oper 20 3 6

*Add one cycle if page boundary is crossed. For branching, add 2. Each cycle is roughly 1 millionth of a second. In order to use these commands, you need a machine language monitor or preferably an assembler. Both of these are provided in The COMPLEAT PROGRAMMER.

Introduction to 6510 Machine Language

by Jeffrey L. Jones. I originally wrote this article way back when I was new to assembler. Since I was closer to the moment of "eureka" then, perhaps this article is the best way to explain the mysterious commands on these two pages

The number one reason for writing programs in machine language is speed. A program written in machine language, even if sloppy code is used, can be thousands of times faster than even a compiled BASIC program. But most people, myself included, shudder at the thought of learning how to program in machine language. After all, BASIC was tough, and now that you've mastered it, you have no desire to master another language. Well, machine language is a lot easier to learn than BASIC, especially when you already know BASIC.

Basically you're dealing with memory locations. Everything in a machine language program is concerned with "What's in this location?", "Let's move

that to another location", "Let's increment", "Let's decrement..."

You have three registers, A, X, and Y. Most every operation you do will be through the ACCUMULATOR or A register. This register in your CPU is the ONLY place where mathematics can occur. It also offers the most versatile forms of ADDRESSING. More on addressing soon. Conceivably entire programs could be written without accessing the ACCUMULATOR but I think it would cause high blood pressure problems

Let's look at a simple, unelegant machine language program that moves lines 2 and 3 to lines 0 and I on your screen. All numbers used are in decimal unless a dollar sign precedes them. Most machine language monitors would force you to use HEX, and even if they allowed you to enter decimal with a + prefix would replace the decimal with the proper hex conversion when you hit RETURN. Assemblers allow you to type in the following program as is, without the need of the line numbers. Through the magic of the fact that this ain't a real disassembly listing, you get it both ways.

```
C000:
          LDY #0
C002:
          LDA 1104, Y
C005:
          STA 1024, Y
C008.
          LNY
          CPY #80
C009:
C00B:
          BNE $C002
          RTS
C00D:
```

To write this program, you would need an assembler or a machine language monitor. You would also have to adhere to your monitor's protocol for entering the code. To RUN this program you would SYS 49152 (\$C000) though it's completely relocatable since there are no JMPs or JSRs inside the

Here's a BASIC equivilant:

FORY=0TO79:A=PEEK(1104+Y):POKE1024+Y,A:NEXT

This program will PEEK the screen, starting at location 1104 (line 2) and then POKE it all, one by one, to line 0. The whole process takes 1.288 milliseconds to accomplish, while in BASIC it would take about two thousand times longer to execute -- literally.

The program starts out by LOADING the Y REGISTER with a 0 (in case it was anything else). Now we get to INDEXING: Note the command:

```
LDA 1102,Y is the same as:
      A = PEEK(1102+Y)
```

This indexing is called ABSOLUTE, Y. It means you want to PEEK or POKE to Memory Location + Y

Y can be 0-255. So you can start with a base address and index to any of 256 addresses.

STA 1024,Y is the same as: POKE1024+Y, A
Again we're using ABSOLUTE,Y indexing, this time to store the data in a different location. We're MOVING 80 bytes to a location 80 bytes lower, I024 or the start of the default screen.

Next we have the commands:

C008: INY C009: CPY #80 C00B: BNE \$C002

These three commands are the equivalent to NEXT in BASIC. INY increments the Y register. If Y is incremented past 255, it rolls over to zero. CPY compares Y to the number 80 or the limit-1 of our loop.

BNE \$C002 is coupled with the previous command. If the comparison of Y to #80 hasn't occurred then BNE (BRANCH IF NOT EQUAL) to \$C002, which is the start of the loop. The BASIC command, NEXT does the same thing: Increments a variable, checks the variable against a limit, then branches to the beginning of the loop if the limit hasn't been met.

Finally we come to RTS, which is the same as the BASIC RETURN. RTS is short for RETURN FROM SUBROUTINE. Since you will more than likely SYS to this program from the immediate mode, RTS will RETURN to the immediate mode; the same as if you GOSUB to a BASIC subroutine from the immediate mode.

Besides vastly greater speed and more compact code, machine language offers more logical operators than BASIC. With BASIC you can basically branch if:

```
equal: IF A=X THEN.
                                   not equal: IF A<>X THEN...
less or equal: IF A<=THEN...
                                   less than: IF A<X THEN
greater or equal: IF A>X=THEN...
                                  greater than: IF A>X THEN...
if not 0 (true): IF A THEN...
```

The LOADSTAR LETTER #32 Special "Programming Issue" O Page 5

	But in ML you get more:	
١f	equalBEQ	if zeroBEQ
١f	not equalBNE	if not zero (true)BNE
if	less or equalBCC	if less thanBCC
١f	greater than or equalBCS	if greater thanBCS
if	negativeBMI	if greater than 127BMI
if	positiveBPL	if less than 128BPL
if	overflow setBVS	ıf bit 6 set (64)BVS
١f	on overflow clearBVC	if bit 6 not setBVC

So you see that you *do* have the power to make decisions, even though you're only dealing with memory locations and numbers less than 256. Of course terms like "overflow set" are probably completely alien so l've included beneath

each term what the actual logic is.

Negative Number are all numbers greater than 127. 0 - 127 Are Positive. 128 - 255 = Negative. So as soon as you load that accumulator (or any other register with any number, the N (negative) flag is set for you. Coupled with the N

flag are two commands:

BPL branch on plus and BMI branch on minus. In the case of BMI \$C132, the branch would occur only if the N flag was set, meaning the number in question was negative. These flags are also set by INY, DEY DEX, INX and most any command that changes a value either in memory or in a register. So when you branch based on a flag, you should be sure that the command used most recently hasn't changed any flags in ways that you don't want or expect. Usually the branch is used directly after that register is loaded or a BIT test bas been made. Check this page for details on which commands affect which flags.

Taking the previous chart into account, we can write our little line mover in a number of different ways, not to exclude counting backwards, which is my

favorite way of looping.

C000:	LDY	#79
C002:	LDA	1104,Y
C005:	STA	1024,Y
C008:	DEY	
C009:	CPY	#255
C00B:	BNE	\$C002
COOD	RTS	

But there's something wrong with this routine. I have a totally unnecessary command embedded. I could save a minimum of 160 cycles (160 millionths of a second) and make my code shorter t'boot if I use a different form of branching. There are a few automatic boons to machine language that I haven't used yet. Again, every time you deal with a number, flags are automatically set. Let's say you LOAD the ACCUMULATOR with 35, whether you loaded it directly or PEEKed the contents of a memory location. As soon as you do it one flag is set. The ZERO flag. 35 is not equal to zero. It is also considered an unsigned "positive" number (not greater than 127). The overflow flag is set simply if the number you're dealing with has the 64 bit set. So even though 128 is greater than 64, it won't set the overflow since the 64 bit isn't set:

```
128 = 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
128 64 32 16 8 4 2 1
N
```

FLAG TRIPPERS

As soon as you load the accumulator with 128, flags go off:

1. Not equal to zero Z flag

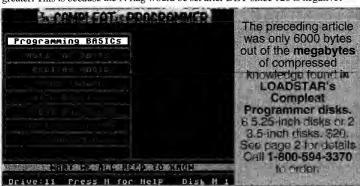
2. A "negative" number: N flag

Bearing these things in mind, let's rewrite that screen move routine:

X T 71	.O. T.T		41
C00B	RTS		
C009:	BPL \$C0	02	
C008:	DEY;	_ affects	N flag
C005:	STA 102	4,Y	
C002:	LDA 110	4,Y	
C000:	LDY #79		

What? No comparison in the code? No need. Once Y is decremented past zero and it automatically wraps around to 255, the N flag is automatically set because Y is made greater than 127 at 255. So you KNOW that Y was just zero and you can stop.

Note that you can't use loops like this to move more than 129 bytes. This is because the loop would fall through on the first pass if Y were loaded with 129 or greater. This is because the N flag would be set after DEY since 128 is negative!



cial "Programming Issue" O P	age 5
LUA Load Accumulator Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	RTI Return from Interrupt Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles
immediate lda #oper A9 2 2 zero page lda oper A5 2 3 zero page, x lda oper,x B5 2 4	implied rti 40 l 6
absolute lda oper AD 3 4 absolute, x lda oper, x BD 3 4*	Betwee from subsouling
absolute, y lda oper, y B9 3 4* (indirect, x) lda (oper, x) A1 2 6	Her steps affected; MZCLDV roomson more Assembly tom or costures system implied rts 60 1 6
(indirect), y lda (oper), y B1 2 5*	SBC Subtract main from accumulator with horrow
Load X register Registers affected: N Z C I D V	Previous of the Control of Nacional Association of the Control of
immediate ldx #oper A2 2 2	imme late s c oper E 2 2 zero page sbc oper E5 2 3
zero page ldx oper A6 2 3 zero page, y ldx oper,y B6 2 4	zero page, x sbc oper, x F5 2 4 absolute sbc oper ED 3 4
absolute ldx oper AE 3 4 absolute, y ldx oper, y BE 3 4*	absolute, x sbc oper,x FD 3 4* absolute, y sbc oper,y F9 3 4*
LDY Lond Y register	(indirect, x) sbc (oper,x) E1 2 6 (indirect), v sbc (oper) v F1 2 5*
Figibilists effected NECLBV (does an arrange suggestify large decorations republic	SEC Set Carry flag Previous statement NZ C10 V Advances made Assembly that by the option
immediate ldy #oper A0 2 2 zero page ldy oper A4 2 3	
zero page, x ldy oper, x B4 2 4 absolute ldy oper AC 3 4 absolute x ldy oper x BC 3 4*	implied sec 38 1 2
Halves value LSR 0-76543210 -C	Set desimal prote Popular offered NZCIBV Common Accomplian access his cycle
Shift right one bit (memory or accumulator). Registers all sates 1 1 2 2 1 0 V and seeing notes the entire that the content of the content	implied sed F8 1 2
accumulator lsr a 4A 1 2 zero page lsr oper 46 2 5	SEI Set Inferring disable stalling Register of the MZ CIBV Adam ship mid. General plant of the Cipies (4.5)
zero page, x lsr oper, x 56 2 6 absolute lsr oper 4E 3 6	implied sei 78 1 2
absolute, x Isr oper, x 5E 3 7	STA
No Operation Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	Store accumulator in memory Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles
implied nop EA 1 2	zero page sta oper zero page, x sta oper, x 95 2 4
ORA	absolute sta oper 8D 3 4 absolute, x sta oper, x 9D 3 5
OR Accumulator with memory Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode. Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	absolute, y sta oper, y 99 3 5 (indirect, x) sta (oper, x) 81 2 6
immediate ora #oper 09 2 2 zero page ora oper 05 2 3	(indirect), y sta (oper), y 91 2 6
zero page, x ora oper, x 15 2 4 absolute ora oper 0D 3 4	Store X register in memory Registers affected: N Z C 1 D V Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles
absolute, x ora oper,x 1D 3 4* absolute, y ora oper,y 19 3 4*	zero page stx oper 86 2 3
(indirect, x) ora (oper,x) 01 2 6 (indirect), y ora (oper),y 11 2 5	zero page, y stx oper, y 96 2 4 absolute stx oper 8E 3 4
PHA Push (store) Accumulator on Stack	STY Store Y register in memory
Push (store) Accumulator on Stack Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing media. Assembly form caccede bytes cycles implied pha	Store Y register in memory Registers affected: N Z C 1 D V Addisessing mode Assembly form opcode bylas bycles zero page Sty oper 4
PHP	zero page, x sty oper, x 94 2 4 absolute sty oper 8C 3 4
Push processor status on Stack Registers affected; N Z C I D V Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	TAX F TAX
implied php 08 1 3	Transfer Accumulator to X register Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode. Assembly form occurie bytes cycles
Pull Accumulator From Stack Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	imphe "lax " AA L 2
implied pla 68 1 4	Transfer Accumulator to Y register Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode Assembly form proceed bytes cycles
PLP Pull processor status from stack Registers affected: NZCIDV	
Addressing mode Assembly form obcode bytes cycles	implied tay A8 1 2
implied plp 28 1 4 ROL - 76548210-C-	Transfer Stack pointer to X register Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode_ Assembly form opcode bytes cycles
Rotate Left one bit (memory or accumulator) Registers affected: N Z C I D V Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles	implied tsx BA 1 2
accumulator rol 2A 1 2 zero page rol oper 26 2 5	TXA Transfer X register to Accumulator Registers affected: NZCIDV Addressing mode Assembly form occode bytes cycles
zero page, x rol oper, x 36 2 6 absolute rol oper 2E 3 6	Addressing mode Assembly form opcode bytes cycles implied txa 8A 1 2
absolute, x rol oper,x 3E 3 7 ROR - C-76543210	THE TAXS OF THE TAXS
Rotate right one bit (memory or accumulator). Redisters affected: NZCLDV	Transfer X register to Stack pointer Registers affected N7 C1D V Addressing mode Assembly form oppose bytes cycles implied txs 9A 1 2
accumulator ror 6A 1 2 zero page ror oper 66 2 5	TYA Transfer Y register to Accumulator Registers affected: N.Z.C.1.D.V Addressing mode: Assembly form opcode bytes cycles
zero page, x ror oper, x 76 2 6 absolute ror oper 6E 3 6 absolute, x ror oper, x 7E 3 7	
absolute, x ror oper, x 7E 3 7	implied tya 98 1 2

*Add one cycle if page boundary is crossed. For branching, add 2. Each cycle is roughly 1 millionth of a second. In order to use these commands, you need a machine language monitor or preferably an assembler. Both of these are provided in The COMPLEAT PROGRAMMER.

people who already own SwiftLink. So, we won't be including it. Thanks for your interest and I hope that we can look forward to delivering a Super CPU to you as soon as they are shipping.

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You, Your Commodore Computer, and the Internet, Part 5: Internet Electronic Mail

by Jim Brain. At the end of last class period, we were just delving into the simplest of all Internet services: electronic mail. Let us continue. Many of you have sent or received electronic mail, either via bulletin board systems, commercial services, or other means. Electronic mail is simply a computerized version of regular paper mail. Every mail message has the following basic parts: Sender Address, Recipient Address, Message Body.

Like regular mail, Internet electronic mail (called e-mail or email) does not contain information on how to get the message from the sender to the recipient. Also, like its more traditional counterpart, email can be addressed in a variety of ways. However, it has a number of advantages over regular mail:

There is usually no charge to send or receive email. (The exception is CompuServe & MCI, which charge per kilobyte of mail read over a certain amount. The charge is trivial, but present.) Distance between source and destination is not a factor. (Even for CIS, the charge per kilobyte is the same no matter where the message came from.) Email is almost always faster. Most email arrives in 10 minutes or less, with 1 day being the maximum delivery time for almost all messages.

It's easy to send binary files and other non textual material in email messages Sending to multiple people does not require copying of message for each individual. The paper saved is arguably more environmentally friendly

Obviously, a few disadvantages include less personality (no special correspondence paper of fancy letterheads), computer/modem requirements, and less privacy. The last is important, as peeking at regular mail is considered a felony in many countries, but there is no such law in place for email. In fact, most email messages, if they must pass through a machine en route to their destination, are saved in areas that are easily accessible by those on that machine. Still, the sheer amount of email somewhat guarantees some element of privacy. However, if one is concerned about privacy, messages can be ciphered (just like playing detective when you were young).

Still, even with those drawbacks, Internet email is one of the most often used services of the Internet. In fact, almost all other Internet services can be accessed via email. An important advantage of email, of of the Internet in general, is its anonymity. That is, if you don't tell someone your email was sent with a Commodore computer, they'll never know. So, let's send some email.

To send a piece of email, you must know the address of the person

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you are sending the message to. Just like its traditional counterpart, an email address details exactly who the intended recipient is. For example:

Traditional Internet Description

Jim BrainbrainUsername 602 N. Lemenmailmachine Fentonmsendomain MI 48430comtop-level domain.

The addresses are organized like this:

TraditionalInternet

Jim Brainbrain@mail.msen.com 602 N. Lemen Fenton, MI 48430

Just as some people have addresses that omit the street address part, some Internet email addresses have no machine part.

Because so many people ask, there is NO directory of all email addresses. There are indeed catalogs of addresses available, but they are incomplete at best. At some point, we will such an exhaustive list, but not today.

The above addressing scheme is called the "Internet" style, and is most common. However, some systems still using UUCP (Unix to Unix Copy Program) instead of TCP/IP to transfer mail might use "bang" addresses. The above address in "bang" format would be:

mail.msen.com!brain

Speaking of "bang", Internet users have a shorthand way of pronouncing some symbols. These include:

!bang *star or splat .dot @at #hash

So, the address "brain@mail.msen.com" is pronounced: brain at mail dot msen dot com. Usually, a person must give you his or her email address via some other medium. However, for large commercial services, you can infer the Internet email address if you know the username:

GEnie JIMjim@genie.com DELPHIJIMjim@delphi.com Compuserve 12345,67812345.678@compuserve.com (note ',' to '.' change) AOLjim01jim01@aol.com Prodigyjimjim@prodigy.com

Note that Internet email addresses are *not* case sensitive. jim@mail.msen.com, Jim@mail.msen.com, and JIM@MAIL.msen.com are all the same.

Now, you'll need a mail client program to send mail. For shell users, PINE is a good choice. Here is the opening screen:

PINE 3.91 MAIN MENU

Folder: (CLOSED) 0 Messages

? HELP - Get help using Pine

C COMPOSE MESSAGE - Compose and send a message

I FOLDER INDEX - View messages in current folder

L FOLDER LIST - Select a folder to view

A ADDRESS BOOK - Update address book

S SETUP - Configure or update Pine

Q QUIT - Exit the Pine program

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? Help P PrevCmd R RelNotes O OTHER CMDS L [ListFldrs] N NextCmd K KBLock

PINE is set up as a menu interface. You can select an option by using the cursor keys, the 'P' and 'N' commands, and the letter associated with each command. For example, typing 'I' brings up the following correct:

	PINE 3.91	FOLDER INDEX	Folder: INBOX Message 1 of 23 NEW
	+ N 2 Jan	30 Julie Joann Brain	(1,555) Stolen with a screwdriver (1,246) Hi (728) RE: Stolen with a screwdriver
	+N4 Jan		(4,831) Commodore Trivia Edition #25 answers (2,422) Re: Re[2]: Is there someone???
	N 7 Jan	30 Johnny H. Lee (EXC	(1,380) Re: Stolen with a screwdriver (2,282) RE: Stolen with a screwdriver (2,525) RE: Roof repair advice
1	+N9 Jan	30 M.W. Cottrell	(1,451) banner for magazine (1,421) Re: Roof repair advice
	+ N 12 Jan	30 aaron@yahoo.com	(1,591) Screwdriver, part II (1,322) Yahoo Change (1,923) Re: Stolen Saturns
	N 14 Jan	30 Johnny H. Lee (EXC	(1,823) RE: Storen Saturns (2,598) RE: Roof repair advice (1,844) repairing plastic panels
	+ N 17 Jan	30 Chris Stanford	(2,938) Re: repairing plastic panels (1,230) Comments via Mosaic
			(1,191) Screwdriver, part !! (2,045) Re: repairing plastic panels
		M Main Menu P PrevMs S V View Msg N NextMs	g - PrevPage D Delete R Reply g Spc NextPage U Undelete F Forward

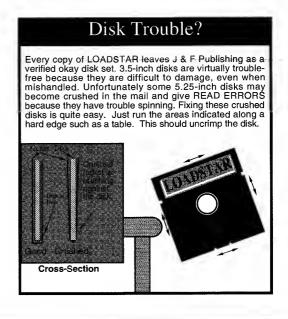
Replying to a message is as simple as selecting the message with the selection methods outlined earlier, and typing 'R'.

New users can find their way easily in PINE, but more advanced users might prefer other shell email programs. For them, elm, mh, and mail are provided.

OK, we are out of time. For your homework, I would like an email message from each class member. Address the message to brain@mail.msen.com and make the Subject:

"LOADSTAR TEST MESSAGE".

Jim Brain brain@mail.msen.com



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geoChert	\$29.0	ю
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geoFile 64/128 \$40.00	\$45.0	ė
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